

Hawesville Operations

January 25, 2011

US Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Federal Activities
International Compliance Assurance Division (2254A)
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

RE: Hazardous Waste Exporter Annual Report

Enclosed please find the Hazardous Waste Exporter Annual Report for 2010 for:

Century Aluminum of KY P.O. Box 500 1627 State Route 271 North Hawesville, KY 42348 EPA ID #: KYD 049 062 375

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (270) 685-2493 ext 2240.

Sincerely, Jein Poteat

Jim Poteat

**Environmental Engineer** 

Century Aluminum of Kentucky, LLC

Century Aluminum of Kentucky Post Office Box 500 Hawesville, KY 42348

(270) 685-2493 Phone (270) 852-2883 Fax

A Century Aluminum Company

Century

**Hawesville**Operations

Century Aluminum of Kentucky, LLC. P.O. Box 500, 1627 State Rt. 271 N. Hawesville, Kentucky 42348



Return Receipt Requested



Scott

US Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Federal Activities
International Compliance Assurance Division
(2254A)
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

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To: Federal Activities

Mailstop: 2254A

Department:

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## **Exporter of Hazardous Waste Annual Report 2010**

Exporter EPA ID #: KYD 049 062 375

Exporter Name: Century Aluminum of Kentucky

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 500

Site Address: 1627 State Route 271 North

City: Hawesville, Kentucky 42348

Report Year: 2010

|                                       |             |                               | EPA         | DOT Hazard | Transporter           | Transporter     | Total Waste    | Number of        |  |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|--|
|                                       | AOC #       | Waste Description             | <u>Code</u> | Class      | Name<br>Clean Harbors | EPA ID#         | Shipped (tons) | <u>Shipments</u> |  |
|                                       |             | spent potlining from aluminum |             |            | Environmental         |                 |                |                  |  |
| Consignee EPA ID #: MIR 000 035 204   | 544/09      | reduction cell demolition     | K088        | 4.3        | Services              | MAD 039 322 250 | 2,747.67       | 137              |  |
|                                       |             |                               |             |            | Clean Harbors         |                 |                |                  |  |
|                                       |             | spent potlining from aluminum |             |            | Environmental         |                 |                |                  |  |
| Consignee: Clean Harbors Canada, Inc. | 001132/8E/1 | 0 reduction cell demolition   | K088        | 4.3        | Services              | MAD 039 322 250 | 511.63         | 26               |  |
| Site Address: 4090 Tefler Side Road   |             |                               |             |            |                       |                 |                |                  |  |
| Corunna, Ontario N0N 1G0              |             |                               |             |            |                       | Totals:         | 3,259.30       | 163              |  |

Reduction Efforts: Century Aluminum of Kentucky continually strives to reduce the volume and toxicity of the spent potlining we generate. Spent potlining (K088) is generated when aluminum electrolysis cells (pots) fail and the cathode lining requires replacing. During aluminum production cyanide, which is the reason spent pollining was listed as a hazardous waste, forms in the cathode lining of the pot. Century Aluminum modifies the pot construction design to increase pot life, thus reducing the frequency of failure and therefore the quantity of spent potlining produced. Century Aluminum has also attempted to reduce the toxicity of the waste by reducing the cyanide formation in the cathode. Efforts to seal the cathode opening in the pot shell prevents air from reaching the cathode. The nitrogen in the air is necessary for the formation of the cyanide, therefore reducing the air entering the pot reduces the quantity of cyanide produced.

## Reduction Results:

Records are kept for each pot showing the date the pot was put in service and the date of removal from service. Average days of pot life are calculated for the pots removed from service.

|             |                       | % Increase       | % Increase           |  |
|-------------|-----------------------|------------------|----------------------|--|
| Years       | Avg. Days of Pot Life | over 1980 - 1983 | over previous period |  |
| 1980 - 1983 | 2004                  |                  |                      |  |
| 1984 - 1987 | 2140                  | 6.79%            | 6.79%                |  |
| 1988 - 1991 | 2336                  | 16.57%           | 9.16%                |  |
| 1992 - 1995 | 2632                  | 31.34%           | 12.67%               |  |
| 1996 - 2000 | 2834                  | 41.42%           | 7.67%                |  |

The above table shows a continuous increase in pot life and therefore a reduction in spent potlining produced. The increased pot life resulted in a 41.42% reduction in spent potlining production in 1996 through 2000 compared to what it would have been without improved pot design based on 1980 through 1983 data.

Concerning toxicity, analysis of samples of spent cathode taken in 1986 indicate an average cyanide concentration of 1,300 mg/kg. After efforts to seal the pots better, a sample taken in 1998 revealed a reduced cyanide level of 654 mg/kg. A 49.69% reduction in toxicity.

Certification: I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this and all attached documents, and that based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the submitted information is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information including the possibility of fine and imprisonment.

Date Kenneth A. Sands **Environmental Manager** 1/25/2011